

Leave No Trace! – Camp Etiquette

The seven principles of Leave No Trace provide an easily understood framework of minimum practices for anyone exploring the outdoors.

Principle 1: PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE!

- Ensures the safety of groups and individuals.
- Minimise resource damage.
- accomplishing trip goals safely.

Principle 2: TRAVEL & CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES!

- Trail use is recommended whenever possible.
- Avoid damage to the land or waterways.
- Avoid wildlife disturbance.
- Inspect the fragility of vegetation and soil.

Principle 3: DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY!

- Consider the impacts that you leave behind, which will undoubtedly affect other people, water and wildlife.

Principle 4: LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND!

- Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeological artifacts and other objects of interest as you find them.

Principle 5: MINIMISE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS!

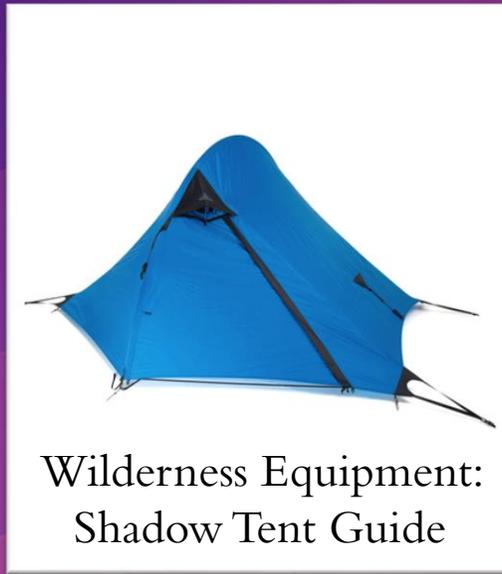
- Is there potential damage to the environment?
- What is the fire danger for the time of year and location?
- Are there administrative restrictions at the area?
- Is there sufficient wood so its removal will not be noticeable?

Principle 6: RESPECT WILDLIFE!

- Do not disturb wildlife or plants for a “better look”
- Observe from a distance.
- Travel quietly.
- Do not touch, feed or get close to wild animals.

Principle 7: BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS!

- Excessive noise, uncontrolled pets and damaged surroundings take away from the natural appeal of the outdoors.



- Camp Etiquette
- Optimal Camp Site
- Setting Up & Packing Down Your Tent
- And Much More!

TENTS

Types of Tents!

Tents have many different categories each classified as a different season!

SEASON 1 TENTS: Very thin, often come without rainfly, intended for summer use.

SEASON 2 TENTS: Like season 1, season 2 tents are extremely basic and often come with or without rainfly, but even with a rainfly, it will struggle against heavy storms or winter.

SEASON 3 TENTS: Suitable for rain, wind, light hail, and some cold weather. Waterproof materials, protected seams, covered zippers, and a rainfly that extends to the ground to keep snow and water out.

SEASON 4 TENTS: Suitable for snow, high winds, harsh winters, and blowing sand. Just like season 3 tents, season 4 tents are designed to be waterproof.

SEASON 5 TENTS: are known as expedition tents, meant to withstand the harshest of harsh winters!

How to choose your campsite?

If you're planning on heading out into the wilderness, be sure to read these tips on how to choose your home away from home!

Tip 1: GROUND SURFACE

- Where you choose to sleep will arguably be the most important decision when picking your camping site. If a perfectly flat spot is unavailable look to position the tent so your feet are on the downward slope. Even ground with no lumps or hollows will help you get a good night's sleep!

Tip 2: SHADE

- Try and choose a spot where you can get a bit of morning shade and it will make for a nicer wake up after a hard days hiking.

Tip 3: LOOK ABOVE YOU!

- For the sake of your own safety, look above you! You should never pick a tent site beneath a dead tree branch, potential rockslides, and loose rock ledges.

Tip 4: WHAT'S AROUND YOU?

- You may not want to be camping right on the water's edge due to bugs in the summer or flooding risk if there is heavy rain.
- If you're expecting high winds, consider setting your tent behind a wind-break such as large boulders.
- Consider the impacts of your camp, if you find yourself in a spot that looks like it has been used, your impact will be less than if you create a brand-new spot.

Tip 5: CAMP LAYOUT

- When choosing your own camp site, it is important to keep in mind what exactly you are looking for. The number of people activities, trail access, nearby water sources and if you combine these together you will create your perfect camping spot!

Setting up your tent!

Ensure you have all camping equipment before you leave!

1. Roll out the ground tarp on level ground away from trees that could drop limbs or other debris.
2. Unpack the base and fly of your tent and place it on top of the ground tarp.
3. Orient the entrance of the tent in the desired direction (by placing your tent to the east, you'll be able to watch the sunrise from the inside of your tent!).
4. Stretch out your tent and place a peg in each corner.
5. To erect the tent, attach the tent pole to across the body of the tent in the desired pole sleeves.
6. Attach the rainfly if desired.
7. Ensure everything is attached securely!
8. HAVE FUN!

For more information on your tent visit:

<https://vimeo.com/357714573>

TENTS

Packing down your tent & tent storage!

1. Ensure all your belongings are outside the tent, and the tent has been thoroughly cleaned.
2. Slowly take out the tent pole holding up the tent fly.
3. Unpeg each corner of your tent and place the pegs into their desired bag.
4. Lay your tent flat on an even surface, with the ten poles and pegs in their bag, line the bag up alongside the edge of the tent. The pokes help form support for the tent as you pack it away.
5. Roll the tent. Ensuring the poles stay on the edge of the tent in line with the side it is on.
6. Open the tent's bag and place the tent inside. The pole and peg bags in the middle make this much easier by providing support.

- Make sure you pack your tent when it is dry! Packing a wet tent is very difficult as the tent will weigh more.

- Pack your tent in the middle of your backpack. Packing the tent in the middle means one of your heaviest items is not putting too much strain on your back!

- For more information check out:

<https://www.wikihow.com/Pack-a-Tent-Inside-a-Backpack>

References

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